

The Vreeland House  
125 Lakeview Avenue  
Leonia, Bergen County, New Jersey

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PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Seymour Williams, A.I.A., District Officer  
133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

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The Vreeland House  
125 Lakeview Avenue  
Leonia, Bergen County, New Jersey

Owner: Natalie Corbett

Date of Erection: 1818

Architect:

Builder: Dirck Vreeland

Present Condition: Excellent

Number of Stories: Two

Materials of Construction: Foundation - stone

Exterior walls - main house  
frame; wing sandstone

Interior walls - plaster

Inside brick chimneys

Roof - gambrel on main part,  
pitch on wing

Historical Data:

The main part of this house is constructed of frame covered with siding, a form of construction used by the Dutch after 1800. It is believed that the exterior walls are filled with brick between the studding. The kitchen wing is stone which would indicate an earlier date of construction since ordinarily the

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kitchen wing preceded the main house. We know that there was a house built about 1714 to the south of the present one which was destroyed by fire; a second one was built and the present kitchen wing of two rooms and a loft may be this second house.

The first of the Vreeland family came to America from Holland in 1638. They hold various land grounds; the plot upon which the present house was built was given by Queen Anne between 1702-1714. A son of the patentee built the present house. The Vreeland descendants occupied the house until 1927 when it was sold to its present owner.

Bibliography:

Field Books and Drawings of Survey

Clarence H. Tabor, Jr., local historian

  
Supervising Historian

Approved:

  
SEYMOUR WILLIAMS, A.I.A.  
District Officer

Rev. Sept. 5. 1936 T.T.W.

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A D D E N D U M

Miss Bailey also raises the question of the date of the kitchen wing. She quotes Isaac Vreeland as saying that the whole house was built in 1818; according to him this is the third house on the property. However, Miss Bailey says that the wing is Revolutionary in style and feels that it was built in 1786 at the time Michael D. Vreeland married Margaret Terhune.

Michael Jansen<sup>1</sup> van Broeckhuysen emigrated in 1636 with his wife and two children. He worked as a farm servant and then set up for himself in 1646. His eighth child was Cornelius Michaelson<sup>2</sup> born in 1660 and died in 1727. He lived at Pembepogh now Bayonne. His son Michael<sup>3</sup> born in 1694 lived on Wesel Road, now Paterson. He had ten children; one of these was Derrick or Dirck<sup>4</sup> born in 1736. He moved to English neighborhood which was a part of the Berry tract purchased in 1669. Here he built two houses - one temporary, the other a permanent stone one. We know that in 1777 he was imprisoned at Morristown for his British sympathies. He died in 1821. His only son was Michael Dirck<sup>5</sup> born 1760 and died 1832. He married in 1786. It is about this time that Miss Bailey assumes that he built the kitchen wing; however, it is possible that the stone wing was built by Dirck and was the permanent stone house mentioned above. Richard M.<sup>6</sup> Vreeland was born in 1787 and died in 1849. He built the main frame house(?) It may be that his father built it for him.

In our original history we specify Dirck Vreeland as the builder and we are inclined to believe that Dirck built the stone section and that Richard Dirck built the frame part.

## Bibliography:

Bailoy, R. F. Pre-Revolutionary Dutch Houses and Families in Northern New Jersey and Southern New York New York, William Morrow and Company, 1936

*Walter E. Rutt*  
Supervising Historian

*revised July 1938 JPD.*